

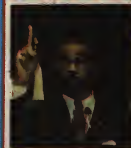


## Michael Clarke Duncan Dead At 54

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## Defense Leads Huskies To Win Over San Diego State

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## Obama Convention Serves As 'Pep Rally' And 'Launching Pad' For Re-election

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# The Seattle Medium

A Message From The People... To The People

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2012

## Lofton Becomes New Executive Director At SHA



Andrew Lofton

Andrew Lofton, former Deputy Executive Director of the Seattle Housing Authority, became the agency's new Executive Director on representatives of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regarding the oversight of Seattle Housing's Moving to Work

## Black Obama Critic Linked To Right-Wing Conservatives

By Freddie Allen

Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — Rev. William Owens, a Black minister who has launched a national campaign against President Obama because of his support of same-sex marriage, portrays himself as head of an independent grass-roots organization when, in fact, he is being bankrolled by right-wing groups and maintains strong ties to Republican politicians, it has been disclosed.

The Memphis-based Coalition of African American Pastors, USA (CAAP) describes itself on its Web site as "a grass-roots movement of African-American Christians who believe in traditional family values such as supporting the role of religion in American public life, protecting the lives of the unborn, and defending the sacred institution of marriage." It claims that it "is not affiliated with any political party or religious denomination."



Rev. Williams Owens

Marriage (NOM), a group that has endorsed Republican Mitt Romney.

According to tax documents, NOM donated more than \$35,733 to Education for All, a nonprofit run by Deborah

emeritus of NAACP on CNN. "The idea that these people are just pawns that can be played with. The Black people who oppose gay marriage, the Black people who support gay marriage can be moved around like pieces

subscribing to Owens' views. When Owens tells people not to vote, he's basically suppressing the Black vote, she said.

In a July interview on the Fox News, Owens said that thousands of Blacks have told him they will stay home on November 6 rather than vote for Obama.

"I believe that Rev. Owens has done an injustice to African-Americans and African-American clergy by limiting them, basically insulting their intelligence that there's only one thing we need to be concerned about," Malachi said.

Owens obviously disagrees.

"The president is in the White House because of the Civil Rights Movement and I was a leader in that movement and I didn't march one inch, one foot or one yard for a man to marry a man and a woman to marry a woman," Owens said at a press conference in August at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C."

## Andrew Lofton

Andrew Lofton, former Deputy Executive Director of the Seattle Housing Authority, became the agency's new Executive Director on September 1, 2012. With the new title, Lofton is responsible for leading the Seattle Housing's day-to-day operations as well as the agency's strategic planning.

"I believe passionately in the Seattle Housing Authority's mission and in our leadership role in the larger community. Our work is critically important to so many people who are struggling and I am proud of the level of service we are able to provide, even during tough financial times like these," Lofton said.

Seattle Housing's Board of Commissioners selected him to replace Tom Tierney, who retired from the post in August after eight-and-a-half years of service.

"I have known Andrew Lofton as a trusted colleague for nearly 30 years, and respect him deeply. I have full confidence that he is the best choice to lead the Seattle Housing Authority into the future," said Tierney.

Prior to his promotion, Lofton held the position of Deputy Executive Director of Finance and Administration for more than eight years. As Deputy Executive Director, Lofton oversaw Seattle Housing's Human Resources, Information Technology, Finance and Budget, and Housing Choice Voucher functions, including the development and management of the agency's annual budget. He has also worked closely with

representatives of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regarding the oversight of Seattle Housing's Moving to Work agreement, regulatory reform, and funding issues.

Lofton said that serving as the agency's Executive Director will provide an opportunity to live out his personal mission of "contributing significantly to the health of the Seattle community and the welfare of its low-income residents."

During Lofton's nearly 40 years of public service, his many leadership positions have included Chief of Departmental Operations for Mayor Greg Nickels; Deputy Superintendent for Customer Service with Seattle City Light; Deputy Chief of Staff for Mayor Norm Rice; and Budget Director for the City of Seattle. He also served as Deputy Director for the Washington State Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development. He received his Baccalaureate from the University of Puget Sound and completed his graduate work in Urban Planning at the University of Washington.

"I am keenly aware of the important role that Seattle Housing Authority plays in the continuum of affordable housing in the Seattle community," Lofton said. "Our success in meeting the challenge of providing housing to low-income people is dependent on the continued cooperation and collective efforts of Seattle Housing and all our partners in the community."

as supporting the role of religion in American public life, protecting the lives of the unborn, and defending the sacred institution of marriage." It claims that it "is not affiliated with any political party or religious denomination."

However, People for the American Way, a liberal advocacy group, and *USA Today* has disclosed several close ties between Owens and conservatives.

Owens launched a national campaign in May calling on African-Americans not to vote for Obama because of his support of gay marriage. The group claims to have the support of 3,700 Black ministers, a figure that has not been verified.

Although Owens claims to be acting independently, Frank Cannon, head of the American Principles Project, a conservative group opposed to same-sex marriage, acknowledged to *USA Today* that its political action fund is paying Shirley J. Banister, a public relations firm, to assist CAAP.

In addition, Owens' group has received loans from the conservative Family Research Council and Mississippi Tea Party activist Ed Holliday, according to documents filed with the IRS.

Rev. Timothy McDonald III, senior pastor of the Atlanta-based First Iconium Baptist Church and president of the African-American Ministers in Action of People for the American Way, said Owens' organizations "no relevance, no constituency and no credibility."

Earlier this year, Owens was named African-American liaison for the National Organization for

Marriage (NOM), a group that has endorsed Republican Mitt Romney.

According to tax documents, NOM donated more than \$35,733 to Education for All, a nonprofit run by Deborah Owens, the wife of William Owens. The group, which claims to promote education reforms in low-income neighborhoods, also lists Rev. Owens as a contact person on press releases for the organization in 2011.

The memo, titled "National Strategy For Winning The Marriage Battle," came to light after NOM lost a lawsuit in Maine over campaign donor violations during the 2009 state elections.

A section of memo under the heading, "Not a Civil Rights Project," stated: "The strategic goal of this project is to drive a wedge between gays and Blacks — two key Democratic constituencies. Find equip, energize and connect African American spokespeople for marriage; develop a media campaign around their objections to gay marriage as a civil right; provoke the gay marriage base into responding by denouncing these spokesmen and women as bigots."

The confidential internal memo suggested "pushing a marriage amendment in Washington, DC; find attractive young, Black Democrats to challenge White gay marriage advocates electorally."

Civil rights leaders were stunned.

"It's one of the most cynical things I've ever heard of or ever seen spelled out in this way," said Julian Bond, chairman

emeritus of NAACP on CNN. "The idea that these people are just pawns that can be played with. The Black people who oppose gay marriage, the Black people who support gay marriage can be moved around like pieces on a chessboard. It's scary."

Benjamin Jealous, president and CEO of the NAACP, said in a statement: "This memo only reveals the limits of a cynical agenda. The truth is that no group, no matter how well-funded, can drive an artificial wedge between our communities. People of color understand what it is like to be the target of discrimination. No public relations strategy will make us forget that."

In 2008, Owens endorsed Republican contender Mike Huckabee for president. He also endorsed Ken Blackwell, the Republican candidate for governor in Ohio.

Despite strong criticism of him, Owens has not backed away from his anti-Obama campaign, comparing President Obama at one news conference to Judas, drawing a correlation between homosexuality and pedophilia and equating the granting rights to members of the LGBT community to granting civil rights to men who have sex with animals.

NOM plans include setting aside \$1 million dollars to target Blacks with ad buys and robo-calls.

Leslie Watson Malachi, Director of African American Religious Affairs for People for the American Way, said that it would be hard for NOM's strategy to work without the entire Black community

as a leader in that movement and I didn't march one inch, one foot or one yard for a man to marry a man and a woman to marry a woman," Owens said at a press conference in August at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

Noted civil rights leaders active in Nashville at the time Owens claims that he served do not remember him.

Mother Jones reported that civil rights icon Rev. C.T. Vivian didn't — remember Owens participating. And nor did Rev. James Lawson, a key leader in Nashville, and nor did John Lewis, a student leader in the Nashville sit-in movement and now a U.S. congressman.

"William Owens is operating outside of the transparency and the openness of Martin Luther King Jr.," Lawson told *Mother Jones*. "If he was in Nashville during part of the time I was there, he was not paying attention to my teachings. My teachings were not about practicing social or cultural discrimination against anybody."

As groups such as NOM attempt to use Owens as "wedge" in the Black community, many doubt the strategy will work.

"[Blacks] are just as concerned about the economy, we're just as concerned about jobs, we're just as concerned about national security," said Leslie Watson Malachi of People for the American Way. "When we look at a candidate who is running for public office, we look at the totality of where that candidate stands."

## Fire Marshal Extends Burn Ban In King County

A county-wide burn ban was declared July 15<sup>th</sup> — August 30<sup>th</sup> by the King County Fire Marshal. Due to continued dry weather the King County Fire Marshal has extended the burn ban into until further notice.

This Phase 1 burn ban applies to all outdoor burning except for small recreational fires in established fire pits at approved camp grounds or private property with the owner's permission. These fires must:

- Be built in a metal or concrete fire pit, such as those typically found in designated campgrounds; and not be used as debris disposal;
- Grow no larger than three feet in diameter;

- Be located in a clear spot free from any vegetation for at least 10 feet in a horizontal direction, including at least 25 feet away from any structure and allow 20-foot vertical clearance from overhanging branches; and

- Be attended at all times by an alert individual and equipment capable of extinguishing the fire shall be in constant attendance at the site while burning.

For more information, visit the King County Department of

Development and Environmental Services (DES) Fire Marshal website at: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/property/FireMarshal/BurnBanInfo.a>

spx



## Roots Family Picnic: 94 Years Young



Annabelle Decuir, center, who at age 94 was the "Oldest Person" at the Roots Family Picnic held last Sunday. Pictured with Annabelle are her daughters Loretta McIver, left, and Andrea Rye, right.

## Defense Leads Huskies To Win Over San Diego State

The University of Washington Huskies held off San Diego State, 21-12, as they opened up their 2012 football season last Saturday night at Seahawks Stadium, but unlike last season it was the defense that helped seal the win for the Huskies.

Husky defensive back Tre Watkins set the tone early as he intercepted a pass from San Diego State quarterback Ryan

Katz early in the first quarter to set up the Huskies' first touchdown. The defense, which appears to be more of a bend but don't break style defense, allowed 327 total yards on the day, recording four sacks, three turnovers and a touchdown in the process.

"It's good to win a different style of game than we were accustomed to playing around here," said Husky Head Coach

Steve Sarkisian after the game.

On offense, Keith Price and the Huskies started the game off well as they built a 14-0 lead. But that was short lived, as the Husky offense all but disappeared for the majority of the game. Price completed 25 of 35 for 222 yards and a touchdown, with most of his success coming in the first half. During the second half, Price was out of rhythm as the Aztec defense recorded three sacks against him and the Husky offense only managed 108 yards.

The play of the game came in the third quarter as Husky safety Will Shamburger returned a fumble 54 yards for a touchdown, recording Washington's first defensive touchdown since 2010. The touchdown gave the Huskies a 21-6 lead. On the play, John Timu and Talia Crichton jarred the ball loose from San Diego State receiver Colin Lockett after

## 3rd Annual Garden, Food, Nutrition & Wellness Fair

The 3rd Annual Garden, Food, Nutrition & Wellness Fair will take place this Sat., Sept. 8 from 12 Noon to 6:30 p.m. at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd Fellowship Hall - 2116 E. Union Street in Seattle.

The event will feature Dr. Herb Joiner-Bey, internationally noted author & educator in holistic nutrition, western botanical medicine & homeopathy. Dr. Joiner-Bey's will lead a seminar on the

prevention of chronic diseases (i.e. stroke, heart disease, diabetes) and good nutrition on a budget. In addition, Willie Austin, renowned fitness expert, power lifting champion, former UW football player, and founder of the Austin Foundation, will present fitness routines and will discuss changing lives through fitness by making fitness a part of everyday life. Nibret Aga, restaurateur and international chef, will present a healthy food

cooking demonstration. Attendees will be invited to share the meals prepared by Nibret and event cooks. Liz Davis of Walkable CD will tell her story of walking which helped her to lose 180 pounds.

Additional workshops on weight loss and maintenance, calorie and portion control, and potting your own vegetables.

This event is free and open to the public.

## Seattle Police Sting Catches 2 Would-be Pimps

(AP) - Two undercover police officers posing as 17-year-old girls arrested two suspected pimps in a sting last week at Westlake Park in downtown Seattle.

One of the men told the

women they should work for them and he would rent hotel rooms and tell them how to haggle with johns over the cost of various sex acts. When one woman said she was only 17, he said she would have to lie about

her age.

When the other man tried to get the women into his car, an arrest team moved in. They were jailed for the possible charge of attempting the commercial sexual abuse of a minor.

## Study Questions How Much Better Organic Food Is

By Lauran Neergaard

AP Medical Writer

**WASHINGTON** (AP) - Patient after patient asked: Is eating organic food, which costs more, really better for me?

Unsure, Stanford University doctors dug through reams of research to find out — and concluded there's little evidence that going organic is much healthier, citing only a few differences involving pesticides and antibiotics.

Eating organic fruits and vegetables can lower exposure to pesticides, including for children — but the amount measured from conventionally grown produce was within safety limits, the researchers reported Monday.

Nor did the organic foods prove more nutritious.

"I was absolutely surprised," said Dr. Dena Bravata, a senior research affiliate at Stanford and long-time internist who began the analysis because so many of her patients asked if they should switch.

There are many reasons why someone might choose organic foods over conventional

Annals of Internal Medicine.

That finding comes amid debate over feeding animals antibiotics, not because they're sick but to fatten them up. Farmers say it's necessary to meet demand for cheap meat. Public health advocates say it's one contributor to the nation's growing problem with increasingly hard-to-treat germs. Caroline Smith DeWaal, food safety director at the Center for Science in the Public Interest, counted 24 outbreaks linked to multidrug-resistant germs in food between 2000 and 2010.

The government has begun steps to curb the nonmedical use of antibiotics on the farm.

Organic foods account for 4.2 percent of retail food sales, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It certifies products as organic if they meet certain requirements including being produced without synthetic pesticides or fertilizers, or routine use of antibiotics or growth hormones.

Consumers can pay a lot more for some organic products but demand is rising: Organic foods accounted for \$31.4 billion

Organic Trade Association said the Stanford work confirms that organics can help consumers lower their exposure.

CSPI's DeWaal noted that difference, but added that the issue is more complicated. Some fruits and vegetables can harbor more pesticide residue than others — she listed peaches from Chile as topping a recent testing list. Overall levels have dropped in North American produce over the last decade as farms implemented some new standards addressing child concerns, she said.

"Parents with young children should consider where their produce is coming from," DeWaal said, calling types grown in the U.S. or Canada "a safer bet" for lower pesticide levels.

As for antibiotics, some farms that aren't certified organic have begun selling antibiotic-free meat or hormone-free milk, to address specific consumer demands, noted Bravata. Her own preference is to buy from local farmers in hopes of getting the ripest produce with the least handling.

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touchdown, recording Washington's first defensive touchdown since 2010. The touchdown gave the Huskies a 21-6 lead... On the play, John Timu and Talia Crichton jarred the ball loose from San Diego State receiver Colin Lockett after he caught an 8-yard pass. Shamburger scooped up the ball and made his way to the endzone for a touchdown.

The Aztecs' rallied late and trailed 12-12 in the fourth quarter, but a late stand by the Washington defense deep in Husky territory proved to be the difference as the Huskies escaped with the win.

This week the Huskies travel to play LSU.

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affiliate at Stanford and long-time internist who began the analysis because so many of her patients asked if they should switch.

There are many reasons why someone might choose organic foods over conventional foods," from environmental concerns to taste preferences, Bravata stressed. But when it comes to individual health, "there isn't much difference."

Her team did find a notable difference with antibiotic-resistant germs, a public health concern because they are harder to treat if they cause food poisoning.

Specialists long have said that organic or not, the chances of bacterial contamination of food are the same, and Monday's analysis agreed. But when bacteria did lurk in chicken or pork, germs in the non-organic meats had a 33 percent higher risk of being resistant to multiple antibiotics, the researchers reported Monday in the journal

including being produced without synthetic pesticides or fertilizers, or routine use of antibiotics or growth hormones.

Consumers can pay a lot more for some organic products but demand is rising: Organic foods accounted for \$31.4 billion sales last year, according to a recent Obama administration report. That's up from \$3.6 billion in 1997.

The Stanford team combed through thousands of studies to analyze the 237 that most rigorously compared organic and conventional foods. Bravata was dismayed that just 17 compared how people fared eating either diet while the rest investigated properties of the foods themselves.

Organic produce had a 30 percent lower risk of containing detectable pesticide levels. In two studies of children, urine testing showed lower pesticide levels in those on organic diets. But Bravata cautioned that both groups harbored very small amounts — and said one study suggested insecticide use in their homes may be more to blame than their food.

Still, some studies have suggested that even small pesticide exposures might be risky for some children, and the

organic have begun selling antibiotic-free meat or hormone-free milk, to address specific consumer demands, noted Bravata. Her own preference is to buy from local farmers in hopes of getting the ripest produce with the least handling.

That kind of mixed approach was evident in a market in the nation's capital Thursday, where Liz Pardue of Washington said she buys organic "partially for environmental reasons." Pardue said she doesn't go out of her way to shop organic, but if she does, it's to buy mostly things that are hard to wash like berries and lettuce.

Michelle Dent of Oxon Hill, Md., said she buys most of her groceries from regular chain stores but gets her fruit from organic markets: "It's fresh; you can really taste it."

Anna Hamadyk of Washington said she buys only organic milk because she has a young son.

"I would love to buy everything organic, but it's just too much money," said Hamadyk, who also shops at local farmers markets.

Associated Press writer Stacy A. Anderson contributed to this report.

# 1420 KRIZ

# 1560 KZIZ

# 1620 KYIZ



## U.S. Attorney Offers Internet Safety Tips

By Gene Johnson  
Associated Press

(AP) — It was a parent's — or a principal's — nightmare: Two underage students in Des Moines agreed to have sex at a party while others recorded it with their cell phones.

The video spread quickly among the kids at Mount Rainier High School last year, and in addition to the potential harm to the couple involved, the episode became a distraction in the classroom and prompted considerations about whether those who took and shared the video might face child pornography charges.

The incident is the type Seattle's top federal prosecutor, U.S. Attorney Jenny Durkan, is hoping to prevent with a new back-to-school Internet safety campaign. Durkan has asked public and private elementary and middle schools throughout Western Washington to send home a letter from her with each student, accompanied by tips for parents and children about how to keep them out of trouble, whether the danger is online predators, bullying or unwisely shared cell phone pictures.

"We've seen an increase in all types of cyber crime," Durkan said

### Seattle Housing Authority To Cut Budget By \$4.5 Million

With the possibility looming of additional deep cuts in federal funding for low-income public housing, Seattle Housing is proposing a 2013 spending plan that cuts the agency's existing services budget by approximately \$4.5 million, including elimination of 29 regular or full-time positions and a reduction in hours of work for two full-time positions. These reductions come on the heels of service cuts totaling nearly \$10 million and elimination of 55 full-time positions in the 2012 budget. This represents a reduction of more than 11 percent of the agency's operating budget in just two years.

in a recent interview. "The hope is to really put a focus on education and prevention. We'd rather do that than some of the heartbreaking cases we do."

The tips for kids include a series of warnings: Don't post personal information online. Don't send inappropriate photos or messages by email or text. Don't write online posts making it clear no one is at your home. Do remember that people can lie online; someone who says they're a 12-year-old girl could really be an older man.

For parents, they include guidelines for dealing with a child's use of technology: Set limits for how much time your children can spend online, and know whom

they're communicating with. Make sure you have all of your child's passwords, and review their emails and messages periodically. Keep the computer in a shared space, rather than in your child's bedroom.

Bethan Cantrell, a Bellevue mother of two school-aged children, is an Internet safety advocate who has given seminars on the topic to parent-teacher groups. She said the tips include a lot of common sense, and some of the most important advice for parents is simply to talk to their children rationally about the potential dangers.

"Parents listen to people who are in a position of authority," she said. "If they actually take the time to pull that piece of paper out of the

backpack and read it, there's a good chance it will have a good effect."

The students involved in the Des Moines party were never charged.

Mount Rainier High Principal Julie Hunter said that after it happened, her primary concern was supporting students involved in or troubled by the episode, and making sure they knew they could talk to counselors about it. She said online safety is part of the topic for freshman orientation at the school.

"It's something we have to keep at the forefront," she said. "You send that text or put something on Facebook, you can never take it back. It can cause a lot of damage."

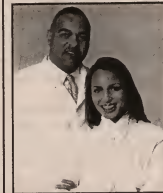
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from two full-time positions. These reductions come on the heels of service cuts totaling nearly \$10 million and elimination of 55 full-time positions in the 2012 budget. This represents a reduction of more than 11 percent of the agency's operating budget in just two years.

"If our funding continues to drop, it will be extremely difficult to continue to provide a reasonable level of services and housing to people with low incomes," said Seattle Housing Executive Director Andrew J. Lofton. "Housing is a critical safety net; often it is the only thing providing stability for individuals and families in need. These federal cuts affect the lives of real people who are struggling."

Despite continued wrangling, Congress has failed so far to pass a 2013 budget, but later this month is likely to pass a short term interim budget called a Continuing Resolution based on 2012 funding levels. However 2012 funding levels contained a significant cut in federal funds for Public Housing Authorities that was meant to apply only for one year, but is now contained in the Continuing Resolution for 2013 as well. If the Continuing Resolution is enacted in its current form, it will mean another significant cut in Seattle Housing's federal funding. Additionally, further deep cuts (known as "sequestration") are scheduled to take effect automatically at the beginning of 2013 if the Congress and President don't act. It is likely that Seattle Housing Authority will not know its final resources and whether additional cuts will be necessary until the first quarter of 2013.

"In light of these uncertainties, we have elected to steer a middle course by proposing budget reductions that are moderate in relation to the range of reductions we could ultimately face," said Lofton. "We did not want to impose the extent of cuts that might be required under current law without greater certainty as to the outcome of Congress' debate on automatic cuts to programs such as ours. Because the swings we could experience in federal funding are so wide, our 2013 proposed budget is likely to be an interim budget that will require amendment in the first or second quarter next year."

Seattle Housing will host a public hearing on the proposed budget on September 17<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 - 4:30 PM in the Jesse Epstein Conference Room on the first floor of Seattle Housing's Central Office, 190 Queen Anne Avenue North.

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## EDITORIALS • COMMENTS • OPINIONS

### Favoritism In The Workplace

By Bill Fletcher, Jr.  
NNPA Columnist

I have many discussions with people who claim that they do not need the help of a labor union in their workplace. These individuals will even go so far as to suggest that they can get ahead on their own and that a union will get in their way.

It is difficult to argue with someone who is intent on believing a myth. It is sort of like those people who continue to believe that the world is flat or that the Iraqis had weapons of mass destruction at the time of the 2003 U.S. invasion. No matter what sort of proof you put up, they have an "answer."

But for the rest of us, it is worth considering a common workplace problem: favoritism. If we are honest, we all know that if someone is personally close to a supervisor or manager they can frequently count on better treatment. Most of us expect that to happen and take it for granted. Still, that does not make it right. In fact, favoritism in the workplace is a major source of demoralization for the workers. You work hard and expect to be rewarded, only to find

out that someone else who just happens to be friendly with management is being treated better than you.

Perhaps you are lucky and there is a human resources department at your workplace. Maybe it is just one person, but in any case, you can go and speak with them. If you do, I am sure that they will offer you coffee or tea, and an opportunity to share your pain. At the end of the discussion, however, nothing has changed.

Absent a labor union, a workplace has only the rules that are demanded by government or created by management. The thing about management's rules – and this is the kicker – is that they do not have to go by them. That's right. They can set up a "personnel policy" that says that promotions are based on the best qualified person and, presto, the best friend of the manager gets the promotion and there is not one thing that you can do about it unless you can show that there was some sort of discrimination based on race, sex, religion, national origin or disability.

Another, and very ironic side to all of this, is that someone who was playing footsy with a supervisor could find themselves in a very

different situation if a new supervisor appears on the scene. The conditions that supervisor X set up can be changed by the new supervisor Y. The person who was the recipient of favoritism, in other words, can find that they are on the "outs" with no explanation or apology.

In the U.S.A., many if not most owners of companies do not want to be obligated to follow any rules. This is why so many companies objected to legislation to create health and safety protections for workers. The owners simply did not want to be accountable to anyone.

The most consistent answer to such lawlessness, then, ends up being a labor union. A union can negotiate a contract/collective bargaining agreement with an employer that emphasizes fairness in personnel decisions, including promotions. None of this is onerous. It is just ensuring that workers are treated with respect. This is what always makes it so odd when you hear politicians attacking unions. Why are they afraid of workplace fairness?

### Obama Needs To Project More Than 'Hope'

By George E. Curry  
NNPA Columnist

The primary goal of the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte, N.C. this week is to highlight the sharp contrast between the policies of President Barack Obama and Mitt Romney, his Republican opponent.

In the past, political conventions were used to count delegates to determine each party's respective presidential nominee. That has changed in recent years, with the ballot outcome already determined by the time thousands of delegates roll into a city for the convention. Today, the speeches are directed at millions watching on television, the Internet or a mobile device, not the people sitting in the convention hall.

Republicans concluded their national convention in Tampa and for the first time in 60 years, the GOP nominee didn't make the argument that his party will do a better job in foreign affairs. President Obama took that issue away from Republicans by ending U.S. involvement in the war in Iran, bringing troops back from Afghanistan and approving a mission that resulted in the death of Osama bin Laden.

With shifting U.S. demographics, the Tampa gathering may be the last national political convention that Republicans or any other party can make a race-based appeal to White voters. Despite token appearances by former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Artur Davis, a former Democratic congressman from Alabama who couldn't carry his own precinct in his bid for governor, Team Romney made a major appeal to its base. And the selection of Paul Ryan as his running mate served to underscore that point.

decided by undecided independent voters. And Romney, a Massachusetts moderate-turned-conservative, can't afford to appeal directly to that group without alienating ardent conservatives already suspicious of him.

Except for a speech to the NAACP annual convention in Houston, Romney has done little to appeal to African-American voters. Not that it would do him much good. A recent NBC News/*Wall Street Journal* poll showed Romney getting zero percent of the Black vote. Of course, that does not mean no Black person in America will vote for him. Instead, the zero was in a poll with a margin of error of 3.1 percent. That means that Romney probably will not match John McCain's unimpressive 4 percent in 2008. By comparison, George W. Bush captured 11 percent of the Black vote in 2004.

Both Obama and Bill Clinton were elected president without receiving a majority of the White vote. And Obama can do it again this year.

Look at how this plays out in the battleground state of North Carolina, which Obama carried by only 4,177 votes – or 0.3 percent – in 2008.

Blacks make up 22 percent of North Carolina's population. Over the past decade, 1.5 million people migrated to North Carolina – 61.9 percent of them non-White. According to demographers quoted by the *Charlotte Observer*, Obama can carry the state by winning just 36 percent to 37 percent of the White vote.

Obama's larger problem is that after campaigning four years ago on a theme of hope and change, there is not much of either today. His severest critics note that after promising change – that's about all they have left in their pockets after nearly four years of his

leadership.

Of course, it's impossible to bring about change by yourself. And Obama was naïve to believe that he could single-handedly change the political bickering in Washington. The party out of power is always plotting to re-gain control. However, Republicans reached a new low when Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell announced before Obama was sworn in that his top priority was to make sure Obama was a one-term president. And Republicans have sought to block Obama's major initiatives, including his signature Affordable Care Act.

They outmaneuvered him on extending the Bush tax cuts. On the campaign trail, Obama promised to extend the Bush tax cuts only for individuals earning less than \$200,000 and couples making less than \$250,000, a position favored by most Americans. However, Obama consented to a GOP plan extending all tax cuts supposedly in exchange for extending unemployment benefits. Obama should have stood his ground and forced Republicans to vote on whether to extend unemployment benefits to people who had lost their jobs.

House Republicans learned early that they could simply pretend to be interested in adopting bipartisan legislation. In an effort to court them, Obama would propose legislation that he hoped would appeal to conservatives. They would play along right up to the end and withdraw from the process, leaving Obama with proposals that even his base couldn't support.

The test this week for Obama is to demonstrate that he isn't the same naïve former U.S. Senator he was four years ago in Denver. With Republicans hell-bent on not seeing Obama return to the White House, he needs to show that he has more than just the audacity of hope.



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## Republican Assaults On People Of Color

By Barbara Reynolds  
TriceEdney Wire

From a Black camera woman being pelted with nuts at the GOP convention to private remarks from House Speaker John Boehner of aspirations that Blacks and Latinos won't vote to Mitt Romney's jokes about President Obama's birth certificate, the Republicans have a talent for assaulting people of color and opening up wounds from a bitter past.

Recent actions off stage and on the big stage of Tampa demonstrate why *The Wall Street Journal's* latest poll shows African-Americans giving Zero percent of their vote to the Republicans in the November election.

For me, this latest hurt feeling ignited with Romney's recent statement in his hometown of Detroit about "no one's ever asked to see my birth certificate." This was a sop to the idiotic birther movement. Despite President Obama's repeated display of his birth certificate, no proof is good enough for the Right Wing. These kinds of demands on Blacks to prove that water is wet resonate deep in our DNA. We can get the same degrees as Whites, pass the same tests and die in the same wars, but so often our credentials are often devalued or discredited in the effort to paint Blacks as "the other, the lesser, the outsider." When this happened to President Obama, I felt like it was happening to me.

The hateful incident of Patricia Carroll, a Black camerawoman who works for CNN, only intensified the pain many Blacks have felt as they were undermined or thrown out of their own workplaces. Two

Whites in the GOP convention threw peanuts at her saying "this is what we feed animals."

The culprits were reportedly evicted from the convention area by security officials, but for some mysterious reason their identities were not revealed. While this was apparently an isolated incident, to me it was reminiscent of how in 2010 right wing Tea Party protesters hurled the N-word at Rep. John Lewis (D. Ga.) a hero of the civil rights movement and it shows how hard it is to rise above racial hatred in America.

As some were reeling from the nut-throwing action, the current Romney TV ads just keeps the temperature rising. The false ads accuse president Obama of gutting the welfare work requirements to "shore up his base," just another divisive way to paint Obama as the "welfare president" who caters to lazy Blacks living off the dole. Data, however, show that the overwhelming populations of welfare recipients are non-whites. Only about 5 million are recipients of Temporary Assistance to Needy Families in 2011, which would be a small base if true.

But what do Romney facts have to do with truth? As Neil Newhouse, a Romney pollster reminded: the "campaign is not going to be dictated to by fact checkers."

The crowning blow, however were the words of House Speaker John Boehner who reportedly told a luncheon hosted by the Christian Science Monitor that his party's strategy for winning the presidential race does not rely on winning over more Black and Latino voters, but hoping they won't vote at all. He was reported as saying: "This

election is about economics... These (Latinos and Black) groups have been hit the hardest. They may not show up and vote for our candidate but I'd suggest to you they won't show up and vote for the president either."

Political strategist Faye Morrison says Boehner's words go far beyond mere aspirations but underscore a national Republican strategy to suppress the Black vote. As national attention focused on the GOP convention, efforts in 33 states continued to block hard-won voting rights. Morrison pointed out that that Thursday a federal court ruled that a Texas voter identification law violated the Voting Rights Act but the pattern continues to emerge as GOP lawmakers enact illegal voter suppression legislation. Those restraints include: tight voter ID laws, provisional voting restrictions, limits on voter registration drives, and reduced availability for early voting. Studies have proved those kinds of strict rules diminish minority voting.

"How dare Boehner push apathy as a strategy," Morrison, fumed as she packed her bags to attend the Democratic Convention in Charlotte as a delegate. "This election is about the price paid by Dr. Martin Luther King, NAACP leader Medgar Evers, Fannie Lou Hamer and the hundreds of other Whites and Blacks who died for our right to vote. Voting is a way to make them—as well as ourselves—matter. Apathy will only continue our suffering."

In the highly charged patriotic setting of the GOP convention, nothing of course was said about the voter campaigns underway to suppress the African-American vote—just another reason Blacks aren't warm and fuzzy about the Republican Party.

## Who Built What?

By Julianne Malveaux  
NNPA Columnist

The Republican National Convention's theme was, "We Built This." One of the speakers was Sher Valenzuela, a Delaware businesswoman who happens to be Latina. She touted the success of her upholstery business and implied it thrived because of her hard work. That's only partly true. She also thrived because she started out with \$2 million loan from the Small Business Administration, and got another \$15 million in non-competitive government contracts. Would her company, First State Manufacturing, have made it without government help? Your guess is as good as mine. But the notion that "we built this" is extremely shortsighted.

What exactly did these Republicans build without government help? They don't even go to work every day in our nation's Capitol without the help of unpaid enslaved people who toiled rock and worked in hot sun to build our nation's Capitol. It took until 2010 for our nation's leaders to erect a plaque commemorating this effort. We built the Capitol? And it isn't the same "we" the Republicans are talking about.

It reminds me of a book written by Pulitzer Prize-winner Annette Gordon Reed, *The Hemmings of Monticello* (2008). As she represses some of former President Thomas Jefferson's diaries, he writes about all the cotton and tobacco "we" planted. I had an amazing vision of Jefferson with a hoe picking and planting. He didn't. He appropriated the effort of other people's work, initiative, and infrastructure. He didn't plant a thing. Enslaved people did the work. Based on his diaries,

though, the man who died nearly bankrupt, expropriates the work of others in his use of the term "we."

Republicans held their convention last week at the Tampa Bay Times Forum. This is a convention center that was partly built with government money, to the tune of \$86 million. As the arena was renovated to accommodate Republican attendees to the convention, no doubt government funds were also used for some of this. This is one of the tax subsidies that Republicans often decry. And how does government justify this? The infusion of all those big spenders might bring money to local vendors and tax dollars to the community. I'd like to see the accounting.

President Obama is right to talk about the way all enterprise is interconnected and the many ways that the government role stimulates business. Federal, state, and local government engage in practices that subsidize businesses because they hope for a return, or because they believe that there are benefits to the community that may come because of government investment. Most sports arenas and fine arts concert halls have some government investment, and hopefully nobody is running around shouting "we built it." Still, the Republican stance seems to be a purposeful amnesia, an attempt to ignore the many ways government facilitates the building that they claim they do.

Congressman Paul Ryan, Mitt Romney's running mate, peppered his speech with slams on President Obama. In his Wednesday night speech, he said "None of us have to settle for the best this administration offers, a dull, adventureless journey from one entitlement to the next, a government-planned life."

What entitlements is he talking about? Subsidies to Head Start, proven to make a difference in early childhood education? Unemployment benefits, which many in his Janesville, Wisconsin hometown community used when a General Motors plant closed under President George Bush not, as he suggested, President Obama? Would he remove Pell grant subsidies to college students? Would he eliminate Social Security? Does he visit national parks? Government subsidies built that. Does he ride on any of our nation's government subsidized roads and highways? Ryan has told us what he feels about Medicare, but his slam on government entitlements ignores the work government has done. Who built the roads? "We" didn't. Government did, with the help of well-paid contractors.

If Republicans want to know what "we" built, they need to look back to the record of former President George W. Bush. That president built a banking crisis, and gave banks nearly \$800 billion to bail themselves out. Bush built an unemployment rate that continued to soar under the leadership of his successor, President Barack Obama. President Bush built a couple of wars, leaving the splash back to President Obama. Romney and Ryan: Do you own the house your party built, the house President Obama is trying to repair? Will you claim the "we" on this?

Republicans need to be reminded of who built what when they walk into our nation's Capitol. Some folks eagerly claim credit for their quasi-accomplishments. Others toil, and it takes more than 200 years for our nation to grudgingly acknowledge them. As a descendant of enslaved people, that "we built it" rhetoric repels me.



## Washington State Receives \$4.6 Million In Record-Setting Drug Settlement

Washington State Attorney General Rob McKenna today announced that he and 36 other Attorneys General reached a record \$181 million dollar settlement with Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a subsidiary of Johnson and Johnson. McKenna and his colleagues allege that Janssen improperly marketed the antipsychotic drugs Risperdal, Risperdal Consta, Risperdal M-Tab and Invega.

The complaint alleges that Janssen engaged in unfair and deceptive practices when it promoted the antipsychotic drugs for unapproved or off-label uses.

"Working together, state attorneys general achieved the largest multi-state consumer protection settlement yet with a pharmaceutical company," McKenna said. "More than \$4.6 million is returned to Washington state, to be used for enforcement and for grants benefiting people who suffer from the conditions for which these drugs were illegally marketed."

After a four year investigation, Janssen agreed to change how it promotes and markets these kinds of drugs. The settlement also restricts Janssen from promoting the drugs for "off-label" uses — those not approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Additionally, for a five-year period, Janssen:

## Seattle Public Schools Students Again Show Strong Gains In Test Scores *Math, science and reading results continue upward trend*

Seattle Public School students made strong academic gains during the 2011-2012 school year, Superintendent José Banda announced this morning. The Washington Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) released the spring 2012 test results on Wednesday, while Seattle Public Schools were on unpaid furlough to help balance the budget and prioritize classroom funding, after state funding was reduced.

"I am very proud of the students, teachers and families of Seattle Public Schools," said Banda. "I'm pleased to see that many test scores are continuing an upward trend. This serves as a very positive starting point to my tenure as superintendent. The continued academic success is due to the focus and determination of both students and staff. It also demonstrates the power of engaged and involved families."

In 2012, Seattle students met or exceeded standard on the state exams at a higher rate than the statewide average in every tested subject in grades 3-8, falling behind only in the high school reading and writing proficiency exams in grade 10 and the new biology end-of-course (EOC) exam.

Compared to 2011 results, Seattle students in 2012 achieved a 12 percentage point

increase in 7th grade reading, following a similar statewide upward trend. Significant gains were also made in upper elementary reading with a 4.6 percentage point increase in 4th grade and a 2.4 percentage point increase in 5th grade. Proficiency rates for Seattle students in grades 3-8 exceeded statewide results in every grade level by margins ranging from 5 to 8 percentage points in math, and from 2 to 5 percentage points in reading (depending on grade level).

Strong across-the-board gains were achieved in mathematics on the Measurements of Student Progress (MSP) exam, with increases ranging from 1.8 to 4.4 percentage points in grades 3-8. Pass rates for algebra and geometry EOC exams also increased over the previous year. For Seattle students who took EOC exams in 2012, the pass rate increased by 0.6 percentage points in algebra and 1.3 points in geometry.<sup>[1]</sup>

The upward trend in science continued from last year with a 7.8 percentage point increase in 5th grade and a 5.0 percentage point increase in 8th grade. This follows a strong upward statewide trend in science as 5th graders and 8th graders across the state increased by 10.4 and 4.7 percentage points, respectively.

The percentage of students who passed the new biology EOC was 61.7 percent. This result was lower than the statewide pass rate of 64.1 percent. (The biology EOC was administered for the first time in 2012.)

"The progress made in math and science is encouraging," said Superintendent Banda. "In a 21st century world, these skills are vital to prepare students for higher education and to compete for jobs in a global marketplace."

District leaders attributed students' strong performance in math, science and reading to excellent teaching and a continued commitment to professional development in these subject areas.

On the 10th grade HSPE, the percent meeting standard dropped by 1.9 percentage points in reading and remained flat in writing (dropping by only 0.3 percentage points). District HSPE results were consistent with statewide trends, with the statewide percentage of students meeting standard dropping by 1.5 points in reading and 1.1 points in writing.

Writing scores across all grade levels tested showed a slight decline, signifying a continued need to focus on building good writing skills. Reading scores in 6th, 8th and 10th grades also decreased.

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"The heinous murders that John Allen Booth Jr. committed caused unbearable heartache for multiple families," DOC spokesman Chad Lewis said in a written statement. "We hope these settlements help his victims' families with their loss."

Booth smirked and acted up throughout his trial, and drew gasps from the courtroom when he told a deputy prosecutor, "I'm thinking about shooting you." The jury took just two hours to convict him.

McCarthy is serving a 14-year sentence for robbery, burglary and attempted extortion. He acknowledged being at the West residence when the killing occurred but maintained he had nothing to do with the shootings.

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School Board President Michael DeBell applauded the work of Seattle's teachers and school administrators for the continued improvement.

"We have a lot to be proud of at Seattle Public Schools, and these test scores show the hard work in the classroom and the dedication of our teachers and staff," DeBell said. "I know Superintendent Banda will continue the focus on academic excellence and ensuring our students are prepared for life beyond high school."

The test results released by OSPI on Wednesday provide results from the statewide testing Seattle students participated in during spring 2012. Students in grades 3 through 8 took

MSP tests in reading, math, writing (grades 4 and 7 only) and science (grades 5 and 8 only). Students in 10th grade took HSPE in reading and writing. High school students (and some middle school students) also took EOC exams in math (algebra or geometry) and science (biology).

In addition to the statewide exams, Seattle teachers and principals continue to use a computer-based assessment tool, the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP). Students took these assessments three times last year.

Teachers use MAP results to set benchmarks for their students and adjust instruction to meet each student's individual needs.



## The National Association Of University Women

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The National Association of University Women is seeking qualified women to start a branch in the Pacific Northwest. Currently NAUW has 77 branches throughout the United States and one overseas branch in Liberia, Africa. The organization was founded in 1910 in Washington, D.C. with a mission of supporting our youth through educational scholarships and mentoring, raising awareness and funding for health issues such as breast cancer, HIV/AIDS and bone marrow transplant.

If you are interested in the organization or have further questions you may contact Malver Haynes at (206) 722-8004 or Loretta Melver (206) 324-5991.

You may also go to our website at: <http://nauw1910.org>

## State To Pay \$3M Settlement For Killings By Ex-con

CENTRALIA (AP) — Washington state has agreed to pay \$3 million to settle a lawsuit over the killings of three people and the wounding of a fourth by an ex-con in August 2010.

The families of the murder victims — Salkum resident DJ West, 16, his father, David West, and Tony Williams, 50, of Mineral — alleged that the Department of Corrections did a terrible job monitoring the con, even though he was supposed to be closely supervised.

The DOC didn't do any of the field checks or drug tests required of the offender, John Allen Booth Jr., or if another witness convicted in connection with the crimes, Ryan J. McCarthy, the families' lawyer, Nathan Roberts, of Tacoma, told The Chronicle, newspaper of

supposed to be supervising them, Seth Skippworth.

"After the shootings occurred, there was a lot of attention brought to the fact that they were fellows that were supposed to be supervised," Roberts said. "The officer simply was not doing his job."

Booth was released from prison about nine months before the killings, after serving five years of a seven-year sentence for bludgeoning a man's head with a crowbar in Centralia in 2004. He has a long history of violent crime in Lewis County dating to his early teens.

— He was convicted of the killings last year and of attempted murder for the shooting of David West Sr.'s girlfriend, Denise Salts, 53, of Randle. Salts survived a gunshot to

closely supervised.

The DOC didn't do any of the field checks or drug tests required of the offender, John Allen Booth Jr., or of another ~~offender~~ convicted in connection with the crimes, Ryan J. McCarthy, the families' lawyer, Nathan Roberts, of Tacoma, told The Chronicle newspaper of Centralia.

The DOC launched an internal investigation and fired the corrections officer who was

crowbar in Centralia in 2004. He has a long history of violent crime in Lewis County dating to his early teens. He was convicted of the killings last year and of attempted murder for the shooting of David West Sr.'s girlfriend, Denise Salts, 53, of Randle. Salts survived a gunshot to the face.

Booth is serving life without parole.

According to testimony in the

sentence for robbery, burglary and

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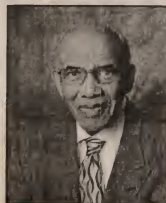
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Thursday  
Family Enrichment

## Antioch Ministry Celebrates 1st Year Anniversary



Rev. Paul & Brenda Edwards



Rev. Dr. Samuel B. McKinney

Antioch Ministry is a "New Creation" in Christ based on the foundation of coming together positively around love and caring; and transforming lives through love for Jesus Christ.

Come join us in worshipping our "Awesome God" on Sunday, September 9th at 11:00 a.m. in the Legacy Gallery of the North-west African American Museum (NAAM) at 2300 S. Massachusetts St., Seattle, WA 98144 as we celebrate our first anniversary. Our special guest pastor will be Rev. Dr. Samuel B. McKinney, Pastor Emeritus of Mount Zion Baptist Church of Seattle.

A special Anniversary Appreciation Celebration will be held on September 16th at 3:00 p.m., Cherry Hill Baptist Church at 700 22nd Avenue, Seattle, WA 98122. All are welcome to attend.

([www.antiochministry.org](http://www.antiochministry.org))

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## Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church Celebrates 62nd Church Anniversary

The community is invited to fellowship and celebrate with Tabernacle MBC as they celebrate 62 years of praising God. Thanking Him for their many blessings.

Services will be begin on Sun., Sept. 9 at 4:00 pm with Pastor Dana McClendon and the Greater New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church.

Services will resume on Wed., Thurs., and Fri., Sept. 12, 13 and 14. Nightly services will be at 7:00. Many churches and pastors from the Greater Seattle, Tacoma areas have been invited.

Rev. Alonzo B. Patterson of Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church of Anchorage, Alaska will do the closing services on Sun., Sept. 16/

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Church School...9:30am

Wednesday Evangelistic

Worship Hour...11:15am

Service...7:00 pm

Sunday Evening...7:00pm

Prayer Saturday at Noon

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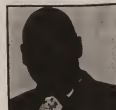
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### Schedule of Services

#### Sunday

Bible Study 9:30AM  
 Morning Worship 10:30AM  
 Evening Worship 6:00 PM

#### Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 PM

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 and that You would keep me from  
 evil, that I may not cause pain!

--I Chronicles 4:20

### Church Announcement Policy:

The Seattle Church accepts church announcements on a weekly basis. All announcements are due by the Monday prior to publication. All announcements on this page are broadcast on The Heaven Boulevard Train every Sunday on KZIZ 1560 AM, KRIZ 1420 AM and KYIZ 1620 AM. All church announcements heard on the radio must originate in The Seattle Medium. All fees for church announcements must be submitted prior to them being published. For more information please contact our business office at 206-323-3070.SSS

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Sunday School.....9:30 AM  
 Worship Service.....11:00 AM

### Prayer & Bible Study

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Midday Bible Study, 11:30 am  
 New Members Bible Study 6:00 pm  
 Evening 7:00 pm

#### Thursday

Youth Ministry Fellowship and Bible Study Thurs. 7:00 pm



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# Ex-Obama Advisers Seek Health Care Cost Control

By Ricardo Alonso-Zaldívar  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** - Some of President Barack Obama's former advisers are proposing major changes aimed at controlling health care costs as political uncertainty hovers over his health law.

Call it Health Care Overhaul, Version 2.0. Their biggest idea is a first-ever budget for the nation's \$2.8-trillion health care system, through negotiated limits on public and private spending in each state.

The approach broadly resembles a Massachusetts law signed this summer by Democratic Gov. Deval Patrick that puts pressure on hospitals, insurers, and other major players to keep rising costs within manageable limits. It could become the Democratic counterpart to private market strategies favored by Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney and running mate Paul Ryan.

Health costs lie at the heart of budget problems confronting the next president. Health care accounts for 18 percent of the economy and about one-fourth of the federal budget, and many experts believe it can't grow unchecked without harming other priorities. Because the United States spends much more than other advanced countries, there's a consensus that savings from cutting waste and duplication won't harm quality.

"We think of these as the next generation of ideas," said Neera Tanden, who was a senior member of the White House team that helped pass the health law. Tanden is now president of the Center for American Progress, a Washington think tank close to the administration.

overhaul.

Their proposal includes other ideas, such as a malpractice liability shield for doctors who follow best clinical practices, and competitive bidding for all Medicare supplies and lab tests, not just home health equipment. All of the signers support Obama's health care law, but see cost control as unfinished business.

Republicans are already scoffing at the budgeting proposal.

"Politically, it is really tone deaf," said economist Douglas Holtz-Eakin, president of the American Action Forum, a free-market think tank. "There is no way Americans are going to trust any government entity to say how much the nation should spend on (health care). It is at odds with our values and our history and has zero chance of happening."

But neither party has a monopoly on trust when it comes to changing health care.

A recent Kaiser Family Foundation poll found that 55 percent of Republicans would prefer to keep Medicare the way it is instead of nudging future



Neera Tanden

retirees toward private insurance plans, as Romney and Ryan propose.

Republican leaders generally want to reshape the health care system along the lines of the changes that 401(k) plans have brought to pensions. Instead of open-ended benefits, individuals would get a fixed payment for health insurance and pick coverage from private plans competing to drive down costs and improve quality.

Republicans also believe government has no business telling private individuals and

employers how much they can budget for health care.

"The aim of public policy should not be to stop people spending their own money on their health care," said Stuart Butler, a top health policy expert with the conservative Heritage Foundation. (While the new Massachusetts plan limits what public programs spend, it does not require private payers to do the same.)

Tanden, the former White House aide, says she thinks budgets and negotiated payments will be less threatening and more politically acceptable than giving people a voucher-like payment and sending them into the marketplace. Medicare would share in the benefit if costs can be checked for the country as a whole.

"We think of this as the answer to 'premium support,'" said Tanden, referring to the term Republicans prefer for the Romney-Ryan Medicare plan. "What this is really enabling is a private sector negotiation. Under premium support what will happen is consumers will pay more."

In Massachusetts, the new

cost control law has its share of skeptics, but it doesn't seem to have provoked a backlash.

"These global budgets are going to be negotiated between health insurers and providers," said Jay Gonzalez, the state's secretary of administration and finance. "They are agreeing to pay for services in a different way. It isn't rationing. It isn't capping."

Massachusetts enacted its original health care overhaul under then-Gov. Romney in 2006, expanding coverage to an estimated 98 percent of state

residents. Obama's law covering the uninsured could still be repealed if Romney wins the White House. The main cost controls in the president's plan — a board to restrain Medicare spending and a tax on high-cost private health insurance — wouldn't start to bite for another few years.

The White House has had little to say about the new ideas from Obama's former advisers. That could change if Obama is re-elected and plunges into budget negotiations with Congress.

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next generation of ideas," said Neera Tanden, who was a senior member of the White House team that helped pass the health law. Tanden is now president of the Center for American Progress, a Washington think tank close to the administration.

Under the proposal, the major public and private players in each state would negotiate payment rates with service providers such as hospitals. The idea is to get away from paying for each individual test and procedure. Negotiated rates could be based on an entire course of treatment. Payments would have to fit within an overall budget that could grow no faster than the average rise in wages.

The spending limits would be enforced by an independent council, but crucial details need to be spelled out. In Massachusetts, for example, budget-busting providers will be required to file plans with the state laying out how they'll amend their spendthrift ways.

The federal government would provide grants to states interested in developing their plans.

Tanden joined a brain trust of former administration officials floating the proposal recently in the New England Journal of Medicine. The group included Peter Orszag (former budget director), John Podesta (transition director), Donald Berwick (first Medicare chief), Ezekiel Emanuel (Orszag's health policy guru), and Joshua Sharfstein (former No. 2 at the Food and Drug Administration). Also on board was former Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., Obama's first pick to shepherd his health care

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## Obama Convention Serves As 'Pep Rally' And 'Launching Pad' For Re-Election, Says CBC Chairman

By Hazel Trice Edney.

CHARLOTTE, N.C. - (TriceEdneyWire.com) - President Barack Obama, four years after taking office on Mile High Mountain in Denver, was set to accept the nomination to lead America four more years this week. Despite the tough race ahead, he won't be alone says Congressional Black Caucus Chairman Emanuel Cleaver (D-Mo.) at the Democratic National Convention.

"This convention is primarily a pep rally and a launching pad - a pep rally for those of us who are believers and a launching pad for those of us who are believers to go out and recapture the people who, for a variety of reasons, may have lost some of the enthusiasm and to some degree we've got to go out and secure the enthusiastic support of African-Americans," says Cleaver. "We've got to have an energized Black vote. When I say energized, we've got to get

African-Americans to the point where they're willing to stand in line for two hours to vote. We've got to get African-Americans to the point where they come to the headquarters in cities all around this nation and volunteer and get signs and go out and create the atmosphere that a second term is inevitable. We've got to create an atmosphere of inevitability. We don't have it yet so we're working on it."

Thousands were expected to

pack in to the Charlotte Convention Center for three days of speeches, music and exuberant activities aimed to excite voters and answer the attacks from last week's Republican convention on Tampa. Among the highlighted speakers are First Lady Michelle Obama and President Bill Clinton, who will nominate President Obama on Wednesday. The President will address the crowd at the peak of the convention on Thursday evening.

With Republican Nominee Mitt Romney nipping at his heels after an energized GOP convention, it is clear that the Black vote will make the difference in the election that will determine whether America's first Black President will continue in the White House. Complaints of high unemployment and disparate economic hardships among Blacks has caused enthusiasm to dissipate from the exuberance of four years ago.

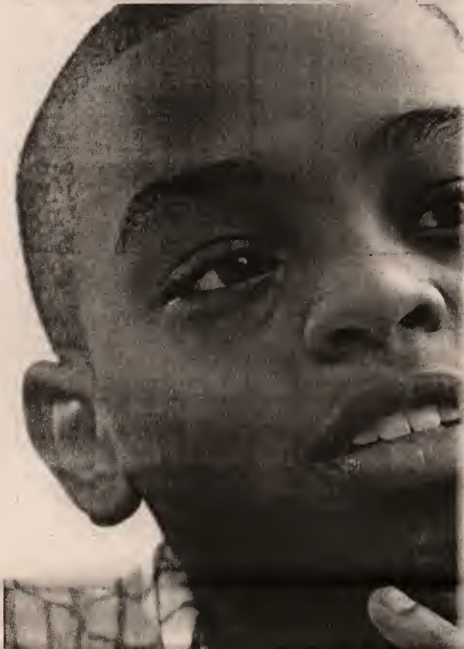
But, Cleaver says all voters have to do is compare Obama's Democratic ticket with what they could get in a Mitt Romney and the choice would be clear.

"People have to look at the reality of what we would have in a President Mitt Romney. And I think anybody who looked at the convention last week and saw people stand up and make bold-faced untruthful declarations about things should know now that a presidency of Mitt Romney would be packed with insults," Cleaver said. "And if people are disappointed with what they think the President did not do because Mitt Romney will not in any way even consider programs that I think many African-Americans will want and need."

As was expected, the Republican convention - with a lily white audience - was deplete of any mention of the disastrous economic conditions inherited by President Obama from the administration of President George Bush. His accomplishments of the first national health care program, his economic policies that led to the resurrection of General Motors and his elimination of Sept. 11 mastermind Osama Bin Laden were all but ignored or vehemently criticized.

Therefore, as President Obama accepts the Democratic nomination for re-election Thursday evening, he must make his record clear to his base, Cleaver says.

"And so the president needs to say that this second term will be infinitely more significant because incumbents are freer to implement their [ideas]," Cleaver said. "It's going to be difficult for him to say I'm going to be more forceful for African-Americans. However, some programs that the president will push will indisputably be put in place to help folk who are the



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infinitely more significant because incumbents are freer to implement their [ideas]," Cleaver said. "It's going to be difficult for him to say I'm going to be more forceful for African-Americans. However, some programs that the president will push will indisputably be put in place to help folk who are the urban poor."

He continued, "This is President Obama's opportunity to go to the American public and say, 'Look, we didn't get everything done that we wanted. But what we want you to do is give us a chance to finish the job. Give us a chance to get the job done. That's what he's got to say. The President is going to have to sell himself again and I think he can do that.'"

Over the next two months, Cleaver says members of the CBC will take campaigns to the streets to excite Black people to go back to the polls in the high 90 percentile like four years ago. The activities will include huge concerts in key states such as Ohio, Florida, Michigan and Wisconsin. They will hold a voter participation concert in Cincinnati.

"And in that concert we will have some of the top musical talent in the country performing in Cincinnati. Everybody who is a registered voter will be admitted free. If you are not registered or if you moved and made a change of address or if you don't have ID, we will have lines and tables right there to help people. Once you are registered, you can come into this event free. We are doing the same thing in Florida," Cleaver says. "We will attract thousands of people who will come to these free events."

In 22 other cities around the nation, they will have smaller rallies, he said.

The biggest mistake that could be made for Black America at this point would be for voters to stay home thinking someone else will carry the ball, Cleaver says.

"We must take nothing for granted. It is dangerous to be arrogant to assume that we're going to automatically win," he said. "People will realize that President Obama was not able to accomplish everything he wanted. He was stymied by Republicans, but I'm not ready to even entertain the thought of a Romney presidency."

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## LEGAL

## INVITATION TO BID

King County  
Invitation to Bid

Project: Wastewater Corrosion Repairs 2012 Work Order, Contract No. C00741C12

Sealed Bid Time/Date: 1:15 p.m., September 27, 2012

Location Due: King County Procurement &amp; Contract Services Section, Contracts Counter, 3rd Floor, 401 Fifth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104

Engineer's Estimate: \$500,000.00

Scope of Work: The work under this Contract consists of furnishing all tools, equipment, materials, incidentals, superintendents, subcontractor coordination and overhead to perform corrosion repairs in the Wastewater Treatment Division, East and West Sections. The work will require principally industrial abrasive blasting and other surface preparation and the application of coating systems and linings to metal and concrete structures. Additionally, the work under this contract will include fiberglass reinforced plastic (FRP) repairs to wastewater odor control ducts and equipment on a work order basis. Associated subcontractors may be required. Work sites: Wastewater Treatment Facilities, King County, Washington.

The work performed under this Contract shall not exceed \$500,000.00 and the initial Contract Time shall not exceed 365 calendar days from the date of Contract execution by the County. The County does not guarantee any minimum amount of work or that the dollar amount of the Work Orders issued will total \$500,000.00 during the duration of this Contract. At the County's sole discretion, this Contract may be extended for up to two additional years in one year increments, or until the Not to Exceed Contract Price is reached, whichever occurs first. In no event shall the Contract Time be greater than three years from the date of Contract execution by the County.

Contract Information: Crystal Graham, Contract Specialist, 206-263-2939, TTY Relay: 711, Fax: 206-296-7675, or crystal.graham@kingcounty.gov. A bidder may be asked to put a question in writing. No verbal answers by any County personnel or its agents and consultants will be binding on the County.

Pre-Bid Conference: September 13, 2012, 1:30 p.m., Dahlia Conference Room, 3rd floor of the Chinook Bldg., 401 Fifth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104. A site tour is not scheduled.

Subcontracting Opportunities: Fiberglass odor control duct repairs.

Apprenticeship Requirements: No minimum Apprentice Utilization Requirement.

SCS Utilization Requirements: The Contractor shall ensure that at least 10% of the total price for all executed work orders shall be performed by King County Certified SCS Firms over the life of the Contract.

Bid Bond: Not less than five percent 5% of the Not to Exceed Amount of \$500,000.00 or \$25,000.00 must accompany our bid.

Plans/Specs: Electronic copies of the plans, specifications, reference documents, and any addenda for this solicitation can be accessed through an external link to Builder's Exchange of Washington from our website shown below. This site includes options and instructions for printing. Printed documents may also be ordered by contacting United Reprographics at 206-382-1117. Copies of documents are not available for purchase from King County, but are available for review M - F 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the Contracts Counter: Chinook Bldg., 3rd Floor, 401 Fifth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104.

To receive email notifications of addenda or other important information concerning this solicitation, you must register to be a planholder under the "Solicitations" tab at the following internet link:

Website: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/procurement/>

This information is available in alternate formats for individuals with disabilities upon advance request by calling 206-263-9400, TTY 206-263-9400.

## KING COUNTY

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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids will be received by the King County Procurement Services Section, 3rd Floor, 401 Fifth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104, until 2:00 PM of bid opening date for the following listed bids.

To download a document, go to our web page at: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/procurement>. King County encourages minority business enterprise participation. King County does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its programs, services, and employment opportunities for persons with disabilities.

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ITB 1330-12-RDD  
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ITB 1302-12-OLB  
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RFP 1289-12-CP  
 OPEN: 10/16/2012  
 2013 Application and Guidance: Ryan White Part A Program - Funding for HIV/AIDS Care Services

Pre-Proposal Conference: A conference to discuss questions related to this RFP shall be held on Thursday, September 6, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. in Conference Rooms 121 and 123 on the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor of the Chinook Building, 401 Fifth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104.

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**Superior Court of Washington  
County of King**

In re:  
**SKNT**  
**Amanda Kinsman**  
Petitioner  
Service  
and  
**William Smith**  
Respondent

No. 12-3-05783-

Return of

(Optional Use)

(RTS)

### I Declare:

2. I served the following documents to **William Smith**; summons, a copy of which is attached. Service was made by delivery to the person named in paragraph 2 above. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.  
Signed at **Seattle, WA** on August 27, 2012

**Amanda Kinsman**

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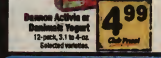
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## ENTERTAINMENT

## Michael Clarke Duncan Dead At 54

By Christy Lemire

AP Movie Critic

Los Angeles (AP) — Michael Clarke Duncan was one big, irresistible jumble of contradictions.

His presence was formidable, even intimidating: The former bodyguard had a muscular, 6-foot-4 frame, but it was topped by the brightest of megawatt smiles.

His gravely baritone was well-suited to everything from animated films to action spectacles, but no matter the role, a warmth and a sweetness was always evident underneath.

The prolific character actor, whose dozens of movies included an Oscar-nominated performance as a death row inmate in "The Green Mile" and box office hits including "Armageddon," "Planet of the Apes" and "Kung Fu Panda," died Monday at age 54. And although he only turned to acting in his 30s, it's clear from the outpouring of prayers and remembrances he received across the Hollywood and sports worlds that his gentle-giant persona made him much-loved during that relatively brief time.

Duncan died at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, where he was being treated for a heart attack, said his fiancée, reality TV personality Rev. Omarosa Manigault, in a statement released by publicist Joy Fehily.

Duncan "suffered a myocardial infarction on July 13 and never fully recovered," the statement said. "Manigault is grateful for all of your prayers and asks for privacy at this time. Celebrations of his life, both private and public, will be announced at a later date."

Tom Hanks, star of 1999's "The Green Mile" — the film that earned a then-little-known Duncan a supporting-actor nomination at the Academy Awards — said he was "terribly saddened at the loss of Big Mike. He was the treasure we all discovered on the set of



Michael Clarke Duncan in 'The Green Mile.'

"Michael Clarke Duncan," comedian and talk-show host Steve Harvey said on Twitter. "What an incredible soldier in God's Plan." Other sad and shocked reactions came from a diverse field that included Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban, actresses Alexa Vega, Niecy Nash and Olivia Munn, and former boxing champion Lennox Lewis.

In the spring of 2012, Duncan had appeared in a video for PETA, the animal rights organization, in which he spoke of how much better he felt since becoming a vegetarian three years earlier.

"I cleared out my refrigerator, about \$5,000 worth of meat," he said. "I'm a lot healthier than I was when I was eating meat."

Duncan had a handful of minor roles before "The Green Mile" brought him accolades and fame. The 1999 film, based on the Stephen King novel of the same name, starred Hanks as a corrections officer at a penitentiary in the 1930s. Duncan played John Coffey, a convicted murderer with a surprisingly gentle demeanor and extraordinary healing powers.

Duncan's performance caught on with critics and moviegoers and he quickly became a favorite in Hollywood, appearing in several films a year. He owed some of his good fortune to Bruce Willis, who recommended Duncan for "The Green Mile" after the two appeared together in "Armageddon." Duncan would

His industrial-sized build was suited for everything from superhero films ("Daredevil") to comedy ("Talladega Nights," "School for Scoundrels"). He could have made a career out of his voice work alone, with appearances in several animated and family movies, including, "Kung Fu Panda," "Racing Stripes" and "Brother Bear." Among Duncan's television credits were "The Apprentice," "Two and a Half Men," "The Suite Life of Zack and Cody" and a new series, "The Finder."

Born in Chicago in 1957, Duncan was raised by a single mother whose resistance to his playing football led to his deciding he wanted to become an actor. But when his mother became ill, he dropped out of college, Alcorn State University, and worked as a ditch digger and bouncer to support her. By his mid-20s, he was in Los Angeles, where he looked for acting parts and became a bodyguard for Will Smith, Jamie Foxx and other stars. The murder of rapper Notorious B.I.G., for whom Duncan had been hired to protect before switching assignments, led him to quit his job and pursue acting full-time.

Early film and television credits, when he was usually cast as a bodyguard or bouncer, included "Bulworth," "A Night at the Roxbury" and "The Players Club."

AP Writers Steve Loeper and Hillel Italie contributed to this

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he quickly became a favorite in Hollywood, appearing in several films a year. He owed some of his good fortune to Bruce Willis, who recommended Duncan for "The Green Mile" after the two appeared together in "Armageddon." Duncan would work with Willis again in "Breakfast of Champions," "The Whole Nine Yards" and "Sin City."

Early film and television credits, when he was usually cast as a bodyguard or bouncer, included "Bulworth," "A Night at the Roxbury" and "The Players Club."

AP Writers Steve Loeper and Hillel Italie contributed to this report.

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